

Appl. No. 10/731,496
Amdt. dated December 12, 2006
Reply to Office action of September 29, 2006

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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0029] with the following amended paragraph, per the Examiner's comments during the Office Interview:

[0029] In a macro sense, the housing 30 of the disclosed orienter 10 looks like an extension of the non-rotating housing 22 which surrounds the drill motor 20. However, housing 30 of the orienter 10 is separate from housing 22. This separation allows the external, lower rotatable section 34 with a fixed bend 36 to rotate constantly at a minimal rpm while the drill motor assembly 20 causes the rotating drill bit 130 to move straight ahead with an oscillating action and thereby form a straight segment of the borehole B, as shown in Figure 3. Disengagement of the mechanical connection between the upper section 32 from the drive shaft 24 portion of the drill motor assembly 20 and the indexing of the lower rotatable section 34 to the desired clock face position has the effect of placing the rotating drill bit 130 in a directional or steering mode as shown in Figure 2 because the fixed bend 36 in the external, lower rotatable section 34 does not rotate. However, because the drive shaft 24 of the drilling motor 20 is still connected to the rotating drill bit 130 by a universal joint or flexible coupling 26, and thusly, the orienter drive shaft 27, the rotating drill bit continues to turn..